

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PANAMA 05712 110637Z

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00

DODE-00 CIAE-00 /026 W

-----086544 110641Z /15

Z 102015Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 3121

WHITE HOUSE FLASH

C O N F I D E N T I A L PANAMA 5712

EXDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y FOR MRN /PANAMA 5712 VICE 3121/

WHITE HOUSE FOR HAMILTON JORDAN AND WILLIAM HYLAND

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, PN

SUBJECT: PROPOSED STATEMENT BY AMBASSADORS BUNKER AND LINOWITZ

QUOTE WE ARE DEEPLY GRATIFIED TO BE ABLE TO ANNOUNCE THAT WE AND OUR PANAMANIAN COLLEAGUES HAVE TODAY REACHED AGREEMENT ON THE BASIC PRINCIPLES THAT WILL GOVERN A NEW TREATY--AND A NEW RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN OUR COUNTRIES. OUR LEGAL SPECIALISTS WILL CONTINUE WORKING TO REFINE AND REACH AGREEMENT ON THE PRECISE WORDS THAT WILL EXPRESS THOSE PRINCIPLES IN FORMAL REPEAT FORMAL TREATIES.

THOUGH THIS IS BUT ONE STAGE IN THE COMPLETION OF OUR HISTORIC TASK, IT IS A MAJOR STEP TOWARD OUR MUTUAL GOAL. WE WILL BE FLYING BACK TO WASHINGTON TOMORROW AND WILL GO IMMEDIATELY TO THE WHITE HOUSE TO REPORT TO PRESIDENT CARTER. WE WILL REVIEW WITH HIM IN DETAIL THE WORK THAT HAS BEEN DONE OVER THESE PAST MONTHS AND THE PRINCIPLES OF THE AGREEMENT THAT HAVE

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PANAMA 05712 110637Z

BEEN REACHED. HE WILL THEN BE ABLE TO REVIEW THE PRINCIPLES AND, MAKE HIS FINAL DECISION.

THIS HAS BEEN A LONG AND ARDUOUS PATH, AS YOU KNOW. FOR MORE THAN 13 YEARS, UNDER FOUR PRESIDENTS, WE HAVE SOUGHT A NEW AND MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN OUR COUNTRIES. NOW WE HAVE TAKEN A DECISIVE STEP TOWARD THAT LONG-SOUGHT

GOAL. WE HOPE THAT WE CAN TAKE THE REMAINING STEPS WITH
EQUAL UNDERSTANDING AND COMMON PURPOSE.

FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF THE UNITED STATES, WE ARE CONFIDENT
THAT THIS TREATY WILL SERVE WELL THE INTERESTS OF THE UNITED
STATES AND WILL BE A STRONGLY POSITIVE ELEMENT IN OUR OVERALL
POLICY IN LATIN AMERICA. FOR MANY YEARS, OUR LATIN AMERICAN
NEIGHBORS HAVE URGED A MORE MODERN RELATIONSHIP WITH PANAMA--
ONE THAT WOULD MEET THAT COUNTRY'S ASPIRATIONS AS WELL AS
PRESERVE OUR VITAL COMMON INTEREST IN AN OPEN, SECURE AND
EFFICIENT CANAL. THE NEW TREATY IS AN HISTORIC STEP TOWARD
THAT GOAL AND TOWARD GREATLY IMPROVED RELATIONS WITH
LATIN AMERICA. IT WILL ALSO DEMONSTRATE TO THE WORLD THAT
IT IS POSSIBLE FOR A LARGE COUNTRY AND A SMALLER ONE TO
ACHIEVE A CONSTRUCTIVE WORKING PARTNERSHIP, FOR THEIR OWN
MUTUAL BENEFIT AND FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL THEIR NEIGHBORS.

JORDEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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Control Number: n/a
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Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
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TAGS: PBOR, PN, US
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